

Medford Tanker Base tops 1.4 million gallons of retardant this year

Today was the last shift for Australia and New Zealand contingent, who filled 85 key mid-level supervisory roles in the Northwest for the past month. Also of note, Medford Airtanker Base surpassed 1.4 million gallons of retardant this year so far, exceeding last year's 1.1 million gallons. Yesterday on the Klondike Fire alone, airtankers dropped nearly 149,000 gallons of retardant on the west flank of the fire.

Stable and warming conditions precede the potential for elevated fire weather concerns in the Willamette Valley Tuesday afternoon, which prompted the issuance of a Red Flag Warning from 1-7 pm Tuesday. The central and south portions of the valley are seeing the highest fire potential. A weak surface thermal trough along the coast Wednesday morning drifts inland during the day and should reach the Cascades late Wednesday afternoon or early evening. Mid-level Haines 5, with local areas of Haines 6, are likely Wednesday afternoon. Regionwide, the energy release component (ERCs) will climb mid-week and then begin a cumulative decline beginning Friday, with the exception of east-central Washington and central-west and southwest Oregon.

Helpful Links:

- PNW Execs blog: pnwexecs.blogspot.com
- NWCC Blog: <http://nwccinfo.blogspot.com/>
- Oregon Smoke blog: <http://oregonsmoke.blogspot.com/>
- Washington Smoke blog: <http://wasmoke.blogspot.com/>
- 7-Day Fire Potential : <https://gacc.nifc.gov/nwcc/content/products/fwx/guidance/DL.pdf>
- Morning Brief: <https://gacc.nifc.gov/nwcc/content/products/intelligence/MORNINGBRIEF.pdf>
- Helpful Wind Map: <https://www.windy.com/?44.143,-119.773,6,i:pressure>

Fire-related articles:

Growing and Changing Gorge, 1 year later: https://www.oregonlive.com/expo/news/erry-2018/09/7dd264ccc16223/eagle-creek-fire-anniversary-g.html#incart_target2box_default_#incart_target2box_targeted

Living on the Fire Frontier: <http://methowvalleynews.com/2018/08/29/living-on-the-fire-frontier/>

Fire reshapes US West: [AP Explains: Driven by climate change, fire reshapes US West](#)

Smoke: [After wildfires, Washington's outdoors industry braces for smoky ...](#)

Dozers in the Wilderness: <http://mailtribune.com/news/top-stories/bulldozers-in-the-wild>

A guide to wildfire preparedness and history: <https://www.bendbulletin.com/localstate/6478309-151/a-guide-to-wildfire-preparedness-and-history>

Emerging Incidents:

Washington:

Saddle Fire: Washington DNR is working an 8-acre fire in a logging slash deck north of Ocean Shores.

Crystal Fire: The Crystal Fire burned 2,610 acres and is 85 percent contained on the northeast side of Wenatchee, threatening structures. State mobilization was authorized, and 40 structures were on Level 2 evacuation notice.

Wagon Wheel – This 7,500 acre fire is 50 percent contained, burning 3 miles north of Benton City and threatening structures, with evacuations occurring overnight.

MM 44 fire: Crews reported having the 3,000-acre fire outside of Yakima completely lined, but 1 percent contained. Hwy. 97 was closed temporarily for burnout operations.

Oregon:

Hugo Road Fire: This 250-acre fire was reported Sunday evening 10 miles north of Grants Pass at MP 66 on I-5. The Governor declared the conflagration act for the fire, and the Oregon State Fire Marshal's Red team responded today, along with a local type 3 team. Several structures were threatened and three primary homes reportedly burned. An FMAG has also been approved.

LARGE INCIDENTS - WASHINGTON



Figure 1 IC Doug Turman speaks at morning briefing

Crescent Mountain/McLeod/Holman Fires:

NR IMT 1, IC Turman, is managing the 46,650-acre Crescent Mountain fire, the 22,511-acre [McLeod Fire](#), and the 299-acre Holman Fire, which are burning on the Methow Valley Ranger District of the Okanogan-Wenatchee NF. Both the McLeod and the Crescent Mountain fires are 35-percent contained. 106 homes are under Level 3 evacuations, 77 are in Level 2 and multiple others at the mouth of the Twisp River Valley remain in a Level 1.

- **Crescent Mountain:** No infrared flight was available last night. The fire was fairly active again yesterday, but a bit calmer today with lighter winds. It is well established in the

Mission Mountain area. Crews secured the western edge of the fire that was burning into North Cascades National Park. Firefighter continued burnout operations in the triangle/Buttermilk Butte area, with favorable winds today. Structure assessment and prep is ongoing on several scattered structures in the area. A VLAT and other air tankers are working on Crescent Mountain. A public meeting is planned for Tuesday 6:30 in Twisp at the Methow Valley Community Center. More information is at: <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/6093/>

- **McLeod Fire:** Crews continued tactical firing operations west of Goat Creek and on the north end of the 8-Mile Road to the 2017 Diamond Fire burned area. Fire crews are going direct on the west side of the fire and using aircraft to check the spread of the fire into the Goat Rocks Wilderness. Fire crews are also working some spots on the west.

Cougar Creek/Bannock Lake: (NW Team 10, IC Lawson) The Cougar Creek fire is reported at 42,134 acres 50% and Bannock Lake Fire is at 483 acres. Crews today were building direct line and completing plumbing to prepare the northwest corner of the fire for a burnout operation. The fire showed some

heat in the Mad River area today. Most of the rest of the fire is in patrol, mop up and suppression repair. The Entiat River Road and campgrounds are open to the public for the holiday weekend. Cooperator meetings are on hold for the holiday weekend and will resume on Tuesday. A water tender had minor fender bender. More information is at <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/6053/>

LARGE INCIDENTS - OREGON



Figure 2 Sikorsky Sky Crane takes off

Klondike Fire: (SA Blue, IC Deuitt). A Red Flag Warning was still in effect for southwest Oregon until 11 a.m. today. The fire is at 109,159 acres (+2,841) and 42 percent contained. Yesterday, fire spread was checked by a heavy air show with fixed wing and helicopters. Tankers made more than 30 drops for 149,000 gallons of retardant. The fire spotted across Indigo Creek today. In the Horse Sign Butte area, where most of the retardant was dropped, the team is prepping for a burnout. A few Level 3 evacuations remain in place with Level 2 evacuation orders for the community of Agness. Five public information officers are staying in

Agness to keep the community informed and to reduce risk of driving back and forth to Gold Beach. Locals have requested a fulltime presence at Cougar Creek Lodge and an expanded trapline for information. PIOs have been emphasizing work done with gel plant. Three public meetings are tentatively planned for this week, including Wednesday in Gold Beach, Thursday in Brookings, and Friday in Agness. A closure remains for Bear Camp road. More information is at:

<https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/5998/>.



Figure 3 Landslide on the Forest Service 19 Road today

Terwilliger Fire: NR Team, IC Connell is managing the 8,446-acre Terwilliger Fire with 23-percent containment. Due to a widespread power outage, the ICP had no internet access to obtain the infrared data from last night's flight. The fire is located on the Willamette National Forest near the Terwilliger

(Cougar) Hot Springs and burning on both sides of Cougar Reservoir team. Fire crews made progress burning along the 1986 road and down handline to tie into the reservoir. On the south end of the fire, crews were burning along the 205 road and were successful locking the fire in on the far south tip. Five crews are timing out within the next few days, creating concern for the ability to refill resource orders to complete burnout operations. A crew rig parked on a ground hornet's nest, resulting in several crewmembers getting stung. One crewmember was stung five times, resulting in a transport to the hospital for a reaction. A forest closure remains in effect. Information can be found at <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/6160/>

Natchez Fire: NW Team 13 (IC Gales) The Natchez Fire grew another 703 acres yesterday to the west and is now 28,608 acres and 70 percent contained. The fire area continues to have a Haines Index of 5 and strong east winds. The fire grew active in the Goat Rocks area today. Retardant was used on the west flank, but were unable to conduct firing operations due to adverse winds yesterday. The fire was very active today, and climbed over Bear Butte through the Cyclone Gap, which could allow the fire to get established again in the Illinois Valley. The team that is timing out has noted that shrubs that were not available to burn when they arrived are now receptive to fire. Evacuation levels remain the same, with 144 residents in a Level 1. NW Team 7, IC Knerr, will assume command at 6 a.m. Tuesday. The Klamath National Forest is extending the west side of the closure area to the Six Rivers NF. More information can be found at <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/5948/>

Watson Creek – (NW Team 6, IC Sheldon) The 58,761-acre fire is 95% contained, 13 miles west of Paisley on the Fremont-Winema NF. The level 1 evacuations for Lakeview Estates were to be evaluated this afternoon. The forest closure has been reduced in size. The NW Team 6 closed out at 2 p.m. today, and transfer command to the local unit will occur at 6 a.m. tomorrow. Last report unless significant activity occurs. More information is available at: <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/6153/>

Taylor Creek (NW 12, IC Glazier) The fire is at 52,839 acres with 95 percent containment. Crews are assisting with suppression repair, including the removal of logs and water barring. The fire will transfer to a local type 3 team at 8 a.m. Tuesday. Closeout for NW 12 is a 1 p.m. Tuesday in Grants Pass. Last report unless significant activity occurs. More information is at the swojic.blogspot.com and <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/6058/> for Taylor Creek.